GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1440
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006
UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE UNDER NREGA .
Mediyam Dr. Babu Rao

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The criteria fixed and conditions laid down for payment of unemployment allowance under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), if any;

(b) The authority responsible for payment of wages and unemployment allowance at village level;

(c)Whether unemployment allowance is paid to the job cardholders in case no work is provided to them under NREGA;

(d) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) The steps taken to remedy the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) If a worker who has applied for work under NREGA is not provided employment within 15 days from the date on which work is requested on unemployment allowance becomes payable to him by the State Government at the rate prescribed in the Act.

(b) The Programme Officer shall be responsible for payment of unemployment allowance and wages throughout the block.

(c) Unemployment allowance is payable to those job card holders who apply for work and are not provided work within a period of 15 days from the date of demand for work.

(d) Unemployment allowance shall not be less than 1/4th of the wage rate for the first 30 days during the financial year and not less than Â½ of the wage rate for the remaining period of the financial year.

(e) The State Governments have been directed to start adequate number of projects/works to match the demand of rural households for work.